

I urge the comissioners to reject the BPL proposal on the grounds that it would cause undue interference to the amateur radio service.

The amateur radio service has been recognized as an important asset for Homeland Defense, and has been long supported by the Departmet of Defense. It is the frontline for disaster communications and costs the federal government very little. Commercial solutions to disaster communications involve cellular telephone, and has we have experienced repeatedly here on the Gulf Coast of Mississippi, and as was recently demonstrated during the Northeast Power Outage, these means always fail when most needed.

There are numerous other means for providing BroadBand access, many of which are more technically viable and cause little to no interference to established radio communications services. Some of these solutions, such as the use of the cable TV infrastructure, are already in widespread use. BPL appears to be a means for utility companies to enter the communications services market, and they should be focused on their mission to provide power. I refer to the recent massive power outage across the Northeast as an example of where the power companies should be spending their efforts and capital. They should concentrate on providing clean, reliable power through renewable sources, modernizing their grid system as required to achieve that goal, rather than diversifying and diluting their capital into the broadband industry.

I am AGAINST the BPL petition.